

AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 12, 2001

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 19, 2001

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 31, 2001

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 30, 2001

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 5, 2001

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001–02 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1603

Introduced by Assembly Member Alquist
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Havice, Liu, Robert Pacheco,
and Shelley)
(Coauthors: Senators Romero and Speier)

February 23, 2001

An act to add Section 71027.5 to the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1603, as amended, Alquist. Community colleges: common course numbering and titling system.

(1) Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and authorizes the provision of instruction by community college districts throughout the state.

This bill would require the board of governors to maintain the California Articulation Numbering System as the common numbering system for the use by the California Community Colleges.

Commencing January 1, 2003, the board of governors would be required to include the use of the California Articulation Numbering System in the minimum standards required of community college districts. From January 15, 2003, to January 15, 2007, inclusive, the board of governors would be required to report annually to the ~~Legislature~~ *chairpersons of prescribed legislative committees* on its progress in implementing the California Articulation Numbering System. The bill would require all community college districts to implement this system, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of
- 2 the following:
- 3 (a) Many California Community College students attend more
- 4 than one community college in the state during their educational
- 5 career.
- 6 (b) This mobility of students, known as free-flow, allows
- 7 students to achieve their academic goals by selecting courses that
- 8 meet their schedules, and can provide them with a reduced time to
- 9 transfer.
- 10 (c) Many other students move within the state and must
- 11 continue a general education or transfer program at their nearest
- 12 community college. This is known as intrasystem transfer.
- 13 (d) Community colleges are unique within California's higher
- 14 education system in this regard. Neither the California State



1 University system nor the University of California allows students
2 to freely take individual courses at different campuses or to
3 complete an intrasystem transfer.

4 (e) As such, the community college system has unique
5 responsibilities to its students to ensure that there are not
6 bureaucratic barriers to free-flow that may impede a student's
7 progress.

8 (f) Often, community colleges, even those within the same
9 district, have different numbering and titling systems for the same
10 courses of instruction. As a result, much confusion and many
11 delays occur when free-flow students attempt to complete
12 graduation requirements or matriculate to four-year colleges and
13 universities.

14 (g) The inconsistencies described herein cost the students,
15 colleges, and state a substantial amount of money, as unnecessary
16 duplication of coursework is occurring.

17 (h) The Legislature has previously acted on this issue by
18 enacting Chapter 493 of the Statutes of 1995, which required the
19 Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to
20 develop, maintain, and disseminate a general common course
21 numbering system for use by community college districts.

22 (i) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, on
23 June 14, 2001, designated the California Articulation Numbering
24 System as the common numbering system for use by the California
25 Community Colleges.

26 SEC. 2. Section 71027.5 is added to the Education Code, to
27 read:

28 71027.5. (a) The Board of Governors of the California
29 Community Colleges, relying primarily upon the advice and
30 judgment of the statewide Academic Senate, and using existing
31 policies of shared governance, shall maintain the California
32 Articulation Numbering System so that it serves as the common
33 numbering system for California Community Colleges as
34 specified in Section 71027.

35 (b) The board of governors shall lead the expansion of the
36 California Articulation Numbering System so that it may be
37 applied to all California Community College major preparation
38 courses that are applicable courses for transfer to a four-year
39 institution of higher education.

1 (c) The board of governors shall develop and disseminate
2 models and best practices for ensuring that the California
3 Articulation Numbering System is explained to students and
4 presented in a ~~user friendly~~ *user-friendly* way.

5 (d) The board of governors shall include participation in the
6 California Articulation Numbering System in the minimum
7 standards required of community college districts to be effective
8 no later than January 1, 2003.

9 (e) All California Community College districts shall
10 implement the ~~common~~ California Articulation Numbering
11 System developed pursuant to this section. The common numbers
12 developed pursuant to this section shall be presented to students in
13 course catalogs and schedules. Following the development of
14 minimum standards as referenced in subdivision (d), a community
15 college district may implement the California Articulation
16 Numbering System developed pursuant to this section at a time
17 that correlates with the district's regular revisions of course
18 catalogs and schedules.

19 (f) The President of the University of California, the
20 Chancellor of the California State University, and the Chancellor
21 of the California Community Colleges shall, with appropriate
22 consultation within their respective systems, ~~be responsible for~~
23 ~~expanding the number of courses that are included in the~~
24 ~~California Articulation Numbering System.~~ *facilitate the*
25 *inclusion of California Articulation Numbering System courses in*
26 *articulation agreements to facilitate the transfer of community*
27 *college students to the public four-year universities.*

28 (g) The board of governors, in consultation with the University
29 of California and the California State University, shall report
30 annually, from January 15, 2003, to January 15, 2007, inclusive,
31 *to the respective chairpersons of Assembly Committee on Budget,*
32 *the Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, the Senate*
33 *Committee on Education, and the Assembly Committee on Higher*
34 *Education* on the use of the California Articulation Numbering
35 System within the community colleges and the intersegmental
36 progress toward implementing this section and Section 71027.

37 SEC. 3. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the Government
38 Code, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this
39 act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local
40 agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant

1 to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title
2 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the claim for
3 reimbursement does not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000),
4 reimbursement shall be made from the State Mandates Claims
5 Fund.

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